

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE MAY 4, 2001

In the Specification:

On page 1, immediately after the title, the specification has been amended as follows:

RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is the U.S. national phase of PCT/EP99/07719, filed September 10, 1999, which claims benefit of priority from British Patent Application No. GB9819769.2, filed on September 10, 1998, the benefit of priority of which applications is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119 and 120.

On page 9, lines 18 and 19 have been amended as follows:

1. 5'-CAACCAAGACTACAAGTACCGCGTCAGTGA-3' (SEQ ID NO:1) and/or
2. 5'-GCAACTCCTCATGGCTGAGGTCTC-3' (SEQ ID NO:2)

On page 9, lines 26 and 27 have been amended as follows:

1. 5'-TAACTTCTGGACTATTTGCGGACTTTTGG-3' (SEQ ID NO:3) and/or
2. 5'-GTCCAGCCCTCATCCTGGCC-3' (SEQ ID NO:4)

In the Claims:

Claim 5 has been cancelled.

6. (Amended) A method of determining susceptibility to bone fracture according to [any one of the preceding claims]claim 3, said method comprising determining the copy number of the B/b, A/a or T/t alleles of the vitamin D receptor gene and/or the S/s allele of the collagen Ia1 gene.

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7. (Amended) A method according to [any one of the preceding claims]claim 3 further comprising determining whether the allele(s) or haplotypes of the vitamin D receptor gene or collagen I α 1 gene present is/are associated with risk of bone fracture.

9. (Amended) A method according to [any one of the preceding claims]claim 3, further comprising determining calcium levels in a subject.

11. (Amended) A method according to [any one of the preceding claims]claim 1, wherein said method is performed *in vitro*.

13. (Amended) A method according to [any one of the preceding claims]claim 1, further comprising treating the subject to reduce the risk of bone fracture.

15. (Amended) A method according to [any one of the preceding claims]claim 1, wherein the subject is a mammal.

Claims 27-30 have been added.

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